

My Mother was a comfort woman during WWII, she was in a camp in Java, Indonesia. I have a sister born as a result of my Mother being a 'COMFORT WOMAN'. My siblings & I suffered the after affects of my Mother having been a 'COMFORT WOMAN'.

My Mother went into the "CAMP" with 3 children. She came out of the "CAMP" with 4. She and my father were re-united after the war, a brother was born in 1947 and my parents moved to the Netherlands in 1948. I was born in the Netherlands & my family immigrated to the USA in 1957 & settled in Riverside, California. My mother suffered severe depression & had one HUGE breakdown while I was a little girl. I grew up with my Mother in bed most of the rest of her life. She had physical problems from the camps, but I believe DEPRESSION, from what she suffered as a 'COMFORT WOMAN', was the main cause of her being bedridden. My Mother passed away in 1980 from cancer.

My main reason for believing that this curriculum would be beneficial as subject matter in high school, is that, having grown up in the California school system and having learned about WWII in the California system, the main emphases was the war in Europe. We did learn about PEARL HARBOR, and the bombing of Nagasaki & Hiroshima, but other than that, we did not learn much of WWII in regards to the Japanese and all that they tried to conquer.

IF the 'COMFORT WOMEN' curriculum is taught properly, I believe one of the things it would accomplish, is to bring a new awareness of what others suffered during the occupation of countries outside of Europe and for the students to gain a sympathy for a WOMEN'S suffering. I would especially hope that the heightened sympathy will stir a compassionate nature, which the students may not have experienced in themselves before.

Thank you for your consideration and your time.

Sincerely,

Marghuerita ILCKEN Scaglione

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